GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:302
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2000
WESTERN COAL FIELDS
HARIBHAU MAHALE

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of over-burden in the case of Western Coal fields during each of last three years;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to utilise the dumping areas by using the Environment friendly measures; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a): The quantum of overburden removed in the case of Western Coalfields Limited during the last three years is as under:

(In million Cubic meters)

1999-20000	95.530
1998-1999	91.588
1997-1998	85.302

(b)&(c): Overburden is used for back filling the voids created due to extraction of coal to the extent possible and depending upon the geo-mining conditions. There after, it is levelled and vegetated with plantation of different species.

There is, per se, no scheme for utilisation of overburden dumps using environmental friendly measures. However, at all places, afforestation through plantation of suitable trees on overburden is taking place to have a green cover as provided in the environmental management plans of the opencast mining projects.